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SUSTAINING - FARM AND HOME HOUR

ADVERTISER

WRITER

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UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS # 466

PROGRAM TITLE

OK

11:30-12:15 P.M. WMAQ BLUE

DECEMBER 26, 1941

FRIDAY

CHICAGO OUTLET

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TIME

DATE

DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

1. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

2. MUSIC: THEME

3. ANNOUNCER: Greetings'. Holiday greetings from Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers,

4. from the farthest outposts of the National Forest system. From

5. the Northeast, the snow-covered Androscoggin Ranger District of the White

6. Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire and Maine, where turkey and apple

7. cider grace the festive table and where Santa Claus is on hand, as usual.

8. From the farthest outpost in the Northwest, the Kenai Division of the Chugach

9. National Forest in Alaska where the holiday menu includes delicious roast of

10. moose and where two Christmas Days are celebrated, one by the Americans, the

11. other, a week later, by the people of Russian extraction. From the Southwest

12. it's the Descanso Ranger District of the Cleveland National Forest in

13. California, only five miles north of the Mexican border, where Indians and

14. whites join in a festival of thanksgiving. And in the Southeast, it's from

15. the Luquillo Ranger District of the Caribbean National Forest in Puerto

16. Rico, where the holiday feast is not complete without "lechon asao" - roast

17. pig, and where the Three Kings, representing the Three Wise Men, are better

18. known Christmas characters than Santa Claus. The Forest Ranger in Puerto

19. Rico sends his greetings in this way: "Los empleados del servicio forestal

20. en Puerto Rico desean felices pascuas Y un prospero ano Nuevo." Which means,

21. "The Forest Service men in Puerto Rico extend wishes for a Merry Christmas and

22. and a Happy New Year." And so say all of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers wherever

23. they may be to all Farm and Home Hour listeners wherever you may be,

24. "Merry Christmas and a Happy, Happy New Year!"

25.

(MORE)

1. ANNOUNCER (CONT'D) Now let's see what Christmas has brought to the Pine
2. Cone National Forest this year. Well! That's strange!.....
3. Bess Robbins, Ranger Jim's wife, and Mary Halloway, sweetheart
4. of Assistant Ranger Jerry Quick, are alone at the Ranger
5. Station. Bess is working with the Forest Service radio
6. communication set.
7. BESS: Hello, SX 2-5-8. Hello SX 2-5-8-. This is the Pine Cone Ranger
8. Station calling Forest Service field set SX 2-5-8.....Hello.....
9. Jim, can you hear me? Come in, Jim. (CLICK).
10. RADIO CRACKLE, SUSTAIN
11. MARY: There's no answer, Mrs. Robbins.
12. BESS: Oh dear! It's no use, Mary. Their set must not be on.
13. MARY: Keep trying. Please, Mrs. Robbins.
14. BESS: I'll try again...(CLICK) Hello, SX 2-5-8. Hello, Jim...Jim,
15. if you can hear me, listen carefully...They've found that lost
16. man...Dave Parsons and the CCC boys found him early this morning
17. in Devil's Canyon....He's all right, Jim. They found the man
18. who was lost... You and Jerry can come back to the Station.
19. Everything - is - all - right, Jim. Do you understand? And
20. Jim, if you can hear me (BROKENLY) Merry Christmas, dear.
21. (CLICK)
22. RADIO CRACKLE
23. MARY: Please don't worry, Mrs. Robbins.
24. BESS: I'm all right, Mary. It's just that....well....we should have
25. heard from Jim or Jerry by now.

1. MARY: But they were all right when they talked with you by radio
2. yesterday, weren't they?

3. BESS: That was yesterday morning, Mary, and Jim said he'd call in
4. again this morning. The radio set has been turned on all the
5. time but he hasn't called.

6. MARY: Maybe Mr. Robbins and Jerry are on their way back to the Station
7. right now. They're probably planning to surprise us.

8. BESS: No, Mary. I don't believe Jim would come back unless he knew
9. that the man had been found. He and Jerry always stay on a
10. job until it's finished. That's an unwritten law in the Forest
11. Service.

12. MARY: Yes, I know....And they would pick the wildest part of the
13. forest to search in, themselves....Maybe....maybe they can't
14. reach us with their radio. And that's why we haven't heard
15. from them.

16. BESS: I'm sure they could reach us, Mary. With that automatic relay
17. station that Jim put up last summer, the smallest set on the
18. forest can get through. You see, the relay station can pick
19. up any radio signal, however weak, and send it on with increased
20. power to this office. I had no trouble hearing Jim yesterday
21. so I know the relay station is working all right.

22. MARY: It's a shame all this had to happen and break up all our
23. Christmas plans.

24. BESS: Yes, it is, Mary. If there's any one day in the whole year that
25. Jim likes to be at home, it's Christmas. And he'd be home today,
I feel, if...if....

1. MARY: What is it, Mrs. Robbins? Why are you so worried?

2. BESS: Well, you know, Mary, when you've been with a person as long as

3. I've been with Jim, you get a sort of...well, I s'pose you'd

4. call it a sixth sense. Time and again, I've known what Jim

5. was thinking about when he was way off somewhere. And sometimes

6. I can almost feel when he's in trouble. I've felt that way

7. about Jim all morning

8. MARY: You mean you think Mr. Robbins may be hurt or that he and Jerry

9. are in trouble and can't use their radio? Oh, no!

10. BESS: I didn't want to alarm you, Mary but...I just know we'd have

11. heard from Jim before now if everything was all right out there

12. in the forest.

13. MARY: Mr. Parsons and the CCC boys ought to be out looking for them

14. then.

15. BESS: I've thought of that, Mary. If we don't get some word soon

16. we'll send the boys out (FADE) to search for them.

17. PAUSE:

18. FADE IN CRUNCH OF SNOWSHOES IN SNOW

19. JIM: Wait, Jerry...Look here. I want you to cut loose from me and

20. go on ahead by yourself. When you get out you can send some of

21. the boys back after me, see?

22. JERRY: (VERY WEARY) Aw, cut that kind of talk, Jim...If this blasted

23. fog would only lift!

24. JIM: Well, let's rest a bit, any way. We've come a long way on

25. these snowshoes.

1. JIM: That suits me all right. Here let me help you, Jim...Alright,
 2. now. Sit down. There!

3. JIM: Got to be handled just like a baby, don't I?Jerry listen
 4. to me, son.

5. JERRY: Jim, if you've got any idea I'm goin' off and leave you, you're
 6. crazy. We'll be all right, I tell you. It's just that this
 7. country looks so doggonned different with the snow all over it,
 8. and then there's the fog. That's all that's got us licked
 9. right now. Soon's I get my bearings we'll be all right...How
 10. do your eyes feel, Jim? That bandage loose enough?

11. JIM: I'm O.K.

12. JERRY: You sure got yourself a swell dose of snow blindness, Jim. But,
 13. shucks, you'll be all right in a couple of days. Good as new.

14. JIM: Yeah, in a couple of days. But in the meantime, Jerry, we've
 15. got to get out of here, or you've got to at least.

16. JERRY: We'll see this through together, Jim...Shucks, why could it've
 17. been me that got snowblind? You'd have had us clear out of
 18. this country by now, I bet. I guess I'm the prize tenderfoot
 19. all right, gettin' lost this way.

20. JIM: No, Jerry. I reckon I'm the tenderfoot this trip. Fallin' off
 21. that little edge like a clumsy greenhorn. Bustin' my snow
 22. goggles and bustin' the radio set to boot. I wouldn't have
 23. minded lettin' that bright sun and the snow glare mess up my
 24. eyes if only I hadn't busted up that radio.

25. JERRY: Forget it, Jim. We'll be O.K.

1. JIM: Lettin' you lead me along like a puppy dog that can't even
2. walk straight. Yeah, I reckon I'm the tenderfoot around
3. here, all right.

4. JERRY: Skip it, Jim...Gee, I wonder what Mary and Mrs. Robbins are
5. doin' right now? We sure messed up our Christmas, Jim.

6. JIM: Bess's probably got Dave and the boys out searchin' for us by
7. now. That's a good joke, Jerry. We come out here tryin' to
8. find somebody else that's lost and we end up by folks havin'
9. to hunt for us.

10. JERRY: I'm sorry, Jim. If this fog hadn't settled in here.....

11. JIM: No, Jerry. You've got no cause to be sorry. You're doin' a
12. swell job. It's just that...well, Christmas is one time I like
13. to be home. An' I keep thinkin' of Bess and what a shabby
14. Christmas I've given her.....

15. JERRY: Sure, Jim, I understand...Golly, I bet if it'd been me instead
16. of you, why....I'd be stark, raving mad by now. You're the
17. fellow that's got the patience, Jim.

18. JIM: I never thought it'd take the sun and snow so little time to
19. put the blinders on a feller.

20. JERRY: It was a mighty strong sun, Jim, and the glare off the snow was
21. terrific....But suppose we forget about all that. We got to
22. get out of here.

23. JIM: This is rough country, Jerry. Got any idea at all how you're
24. headin'?

25. JERRY: No, Jim, except that I've tried to stay along this ridge we're
on right now, hopin' to find a gap or trail or something.

1. JIM: O.K. That's your best bet, I reckon. Maybe the sun'll break
 2. through pretty soon and you'll be able to get your bearings.
 3. JERRY: Now you're talkin' like your old self, Jim. What d'ya say?
 4. Ready to mush on again?
 5. JIM: Yep, I'm ready. And say, Jerry.....
 6. JERRY: Yes, Jim?
 7. JIM: Jerry, I'm sorry I let my hair down the way I did a minute ago.
 8. I was pretty bitter inside and it just sorta flowed over to the
 9. outside, I reckon.
 10. JERRY: I understand, Jim.. We'll be all right. You'll see.
 11. JIM: Sure we will!.....Merry Christmas, Jerry!
 12. JERRY: Merry Christmas to you (FADE) Jim!
 13. PAUSE
 14. FADE IN CRUNCH OF SNOWSHOES
 15. JIM: Jerry?
 16. JERRY: Yeah, Jim?
 17. HIM: Workin' uphill again, ain't we?
 18. JERRY: Yeah, but we're still on the ridge. This sure is a long baby,
 19. this ridge.
 20. JIM: You must me gettin' mighty tired, son.
 21. JERRY: Not bad, Jim.
 22. JIM: I've been wonderin' if it wouldn't a been better if we'd stayed
 23. put back there where I had that accident yesterday. The boys'd
 24. find us eventually.
 25.

1. JERRY: If we don't get our bearings pretty quick I guess we'll hafta
2. bed down....but I've been thinkin', Jim...What if Dave and the
3. boys don't catch up with us? What if this fog doesn't lift?
4. Signal smoke won't do any good, and we haven't much of any grub
5. or stuff with us. What if.....

6. JIM: Whoa there, Jerry. That's enough of that kind of talk, you're
7. supposed to be the optimist around here...Say, the back of
8. my neck feels kinda warm all of a sudden. Is that the sun..?

9. JERRY: (EXCITED) Yes sir! It's the sun. It just flashed through,
10. Jim. Now if it'll only stay out a.....

11. JIM: What's around us, Jerry? Better look quick, in case the fog
12. settles down again.

13. JERRY: Wait! Up ahead there, against the sky.....

14. JIM: What is it, Jerry?.....Jerry!

15. JERRY: Jim, we're headed for a ridge top all right. I can see the crest
16. from here. There's a regular boiling of mist and snow powder
17. up there. Now and then it clears off the summit and I can see
18. something shiny against the sky up there....Jim! It's a Cross!
19. A shining Cross against the sky!.....I must be seein' things.

20. JIM: Quick, Jerry. Can you make out any moutain top to the south?
21. Isn't there a mountain stickin' up there to the south?

22. JERRY: The Cross is still there, Jim. It's real, just as real as can be.
23. Glistening and shining up there. Jim, are we...am I...outa my
24. head or something?

25. JIM: Didn't you hear me, Jerry? What's to the south?

1. JERRY: Huh? To the south? Yeah there's a mountain top. Shaped sorta
 2. like a bowl turned upside down. But that Cross, Jim, it's still
 3. there. Like a dazzling light against the sky.

4. JIM: Mountain top shaped like a bowl turned upside down, huh?
 5. Why, of course! That's Sugar Loaf Mountain, Jerry, there to
 6. the south. We're all right. Everything's all right, now...
 7. Do you hear, Jerry?

8. JERRY: Huh? I still see that Cross up ahead of us, Jim..I must be..

9. JIM: Yes, Jerry. There's a Cross up there. And that....that Cross
 10. as God must have willed it, is our salvation.

11. JERRY: Jim, do you feel all right?

12. JIM: Sure, I'm all right. Let me tell you, Jerry...That cross you
 13. see is the antenna of our automatic relay station. The aerial's
 14. a metal upright with a cross piece. Right now, it must be
 15. covered with ice and the sun shining against it makes it glisten
 16. and sparkle like you see.

17. JERRY: Oh. For a minute I thought that... but Jim, what good's
 18. that relay station goin' to do us? We don't have a radio,
 19. remember.

20. JIM: There's a hand mike and earphones ready for use in a little
 21. weather-proof cabinet up there, well, Jerry, it looks like
 22. we'll be home for our Christmas celebration after all. A
 23. little late, maybe, but.....

24. JERRY: It's almost like a...a miracle, Jim. We might have gone right
 25. past it without even seein' it, in the fog.

1. JIM: I was thinkin' about that, Jerry. The sun comin' out when it
2. did and the cross shining..I remember, last summer when I
3. helped the boys put that station up, how I felt that some day
4. maybe, it'd help save somebody's life. I didn't think, then,
5. that we'd be the ones it'd lead home, on Christmas Day.

6. JERRY: It's beautiful, that cross, Jim, shining against the sky.
7. I wish you could see it, Jim.

8. JIM: I can see it, Jerry. Not with my eyes, maybe, but I can see
9. a shining Cross. It's inside me, within my heart.

10. MUSICAL FINALE

11. ANNOUNCER: Next friday, during the National Farm and Home Hour, we're going
12. to have a special program for you, in celebration of the tenth
13. anniversary of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers. Yes, next Friday
14. Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers starts its eleventh year on the air.
15. This program is a presentation of the National Broadcasting
16. Company with the cooperation of the Forest Service, United
17. States Department of Agriculture.

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